



# Guidance for Pet Owners and Shelters

**At this time, the CDC has not reported any cases of pets or animals that have been infected with COVID-19. There is also no evidence that pets can spread the disease to other pets or people.**

## **BE PREPARED**

- *All pet owners should have an emergency plan no matter what*
- *Put together an emergency kit with your pet's identification details (for example, microchip information), copies of their vet records, medications, and supplies such as pet food, cat litter, cleaning supplies, etc.*
- *It is always a good idea to wash your hands before and after being around animals*

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PET OWNERS WITH COVID-19**

- *To be extra safe, HCPH recommends that individuals with COVID-19 should limit their contact with animals until more information is known about the virus*
- *If you have COVID-19, have another member of your household take care of walking, feeding, and playing with your pet*
- *If you have COVID-19 and do not have someone to help you care for your pet, wear a facemask and do not share food, kiss, or hug your pet. Also, wash your hands before and after any contact with your pet*

## **PREPARATION FOR ANIMAL SHELTERS**

- *The Department of State Health Services does not recommend quarantining animals in shelters due to COVID-19*
- *In our region, animal shelters should use their hurricane emergency response plans and pandemic influenza plans for guidance*

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